

AROUND MAINE

Fall 2011



Dear Friend,

We thank our God for His abundant blessing upon the ministry of *Child Evangelism Fellowship*®, throughout the state of Maine. Both our ministry year and our financial year ended on August 31st, with the salaries up to date and all bills paid.

Our Lord met all our needs and granted a great harvest among the children of our state. Full-time staff and volunteers ministered to over 10,600 children; over 400 of those kids made professions of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Heaven rejoices; we are rejoicing, and we know that you also rejoice in all that God has done.

I trust the following highlights will give you a good picture of God's work in our ministry during this past year:

We held our largest ever *Christian Youth In Action*® Training School. One hundred thirty-four young people joined us for ten days of training and outreach. We were greatly encouraged with their dedication and desire to serve our Lord. I really believe we are helping develop the next generation of leaders for the church in Maine, and far beyond.

We saw God's great blessing upon our camping ministry here at *Camp Good News*®, and throughout the state. Just over 1,500 children attended a *CEF* camp in Maine this past summer. I remember when we had only two weeks of camp on rented property. When I think about all that God has done and is doing, I am thankful and greatly humbled at His goodness. Kids love camp, and we love providing camp for them.

Here's a couple of excerpts from letters written by campers this summer:

"Hi! What I enjoyed most about camp was, outdoor living, lunch, trading post, breakfast, chapel, taps and flag raising... God helped me to be saved and learn more about Him."

"The thing I enjoyed most about camp was doing archery, because I like to shoot the arrows... God helped me to tell my grandmother and grandfather about Christ in a letter."

Over the years I have noticed that most children express concern for the salvation of family members soon after they have received the Lord as their own Savior.

Our new staff housing is progressing well. Our goal is to have everything closed in before snow flies, and then work on the inside this winter. Our Lord has provided sufficient funding thus far, and we are thankful.

Spiritually speaking, Maine is a dark state. There is only one other state in the nation where fewer people per capita go to church than here in Maine. The vast majority of children are not growing up in a Christian home or attending Sunday school. We need to reach those kids.

Last year we held *Good News Clubs* in sixty-four schools. What a tremendous outreach. I am thankful for the volunteers who made that possible, but there are many more schools that we are not in, and thousands of children who have still not heard the Gospel. Paul wrote these words to the church of Rome: "I am a debtor both to the Greeks and to Barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. So, as much as it is in me I am ready to preach the Gospel to you who are in Rome also" (Rom. 1:14-15 NKJV).

Paul owed a debt to all men, and so do we. We owe a debt to the children of Maine. We need to share the Gospel with our children. They are waiting to hear.

We thank you for your faithful help in that effort. You have prayed with us, given generously to our work, and invested your lives in our ministry. We ask you to continue to do so. We need your help financially. We always have needed your help, and we always will. I believe God planned it that way.

We are struggling in our general funds for *Camp Good News* and our state office. Our staff is paid from the general fund. Thank you for prayerfully considering how you might help.

We are thankful for your generosity, and our Lord's provision.

'Til Every Child Knows,

John Romano



Our State Office Team:
John Romano, State Director
Melanie Mulherin, State Ministry Coordinator
Vernelle Fast, State Ministry Coordinator
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CEF of Maine Family News!

Congratulations to our Western Maine director, Virginia Mathieu, who was married on August 27 to Dean Robinson. We wish them God's richest blessing in their marriage.



Congratulations to our Central Maine workers, Mr. and Mrs. John Partridge on the birth of their first child. Ruth Lindsay Partridge was born on September 9. "Children are an heritage of the LORD."



Welcome to Jessie Lofton, our new worker in Eastern Maine. Jessie was saved in the Lamoine school Good News Club®. She prepared for ministry at New Brunswick Bible Institute and completed her fourth year after doing an internship at CEF's Neighborhood House in Belfast last year. Jessie has been part of our College Bound program

serving with us at *Camp Good News* for several summers.

Appreciation goes to Tracy Taylor who served faithfully for 4 years as our Eastern Maine Director.

Welcome to Eliza Daigle, our newest worker in our state office. Eliza is the daughter of our maintenance director at *Camp Good News*, Barney Daigle. Eliza has "grown up" in our camping ministry, serving with us many summers in the College Bound program. She will be helping us upgrade many of the media aspects of our work as well as continuing to serve in the summer and winter ministries of *Camp Good News*.



Congratulations to John Romano for 25 years of faithful service to CEF of Maine as our State Director. We are thankful for his godly leadership. It was a blessing to see him recognized at the CEF International Conference for his ministry.

Welcome to Kevin Lambertson, who is joining the staff in southern Maine. Kevin will be working part-time until he has completed his courses at New England Bible College. Kevin is the son of Pastor Dan & Selena Lambertson of the South Waterboro Bible Chapel in Waterboro, Maine. Kevin has "grown-up" in the ministries at *Camp Good News* and *Christian Youth in Action*, serving on the staff in recent years.



Welcome to Jenny Herbert, who is also joining the staff in southern Maine. She is currently attending New England Bible College. After much prayer, Jenny felt God's call on her life for ministry with CEF because of its primary focus on a very important but often forgotten group of people - children.



Summer ministries always begin with the entire full-time staff of CEF of Maine serving together to train teens to minister to children. God gave us the responsibility of training **134** young people—the highest number we have ever had! The students blessed us with their diligence to study and with hearts ready to learn and grow in the Lord. They reached 501 children during the training with 55 salvation decisions. Many continued to reach children throughout the summer in various ministries.

1,524 children reached through camping ministries this summer!

109 decisions for Christ

Camp Good News

7 weeks of overnight camping
636 children attended
53 salvation decisions



God blessed us with 297 volunteers who shared their hearts and lives with campers. Children's hearts responded as the truth of God's Word was shared many times and in many ways throughout each day of camp. "God helped me to understand truly how and why Jesus shed His blood for me" was the response of one boy's heart. "God helped me to think about being a missionary" was the response from one girl. *Camp Good News* has been ministering to children, teens and adults for 42 years.

River of Life Bible Camp

4 weeks of overnight camping
125 children attended
3 salvation decisions



In 2007, CEF entered into a long-term partnership with River of Life Bible Camp in Howland, providing a director and a consistent program for the campers, staff and volunteers. For the past four years, Brad Walker, Central Maine staff worker, has directed that camp.

Day Camps

18 weeks of Day Camps
722 children attended
52 salvation decisions



Many of our local *CEF* chapters wanted to spend more time with the children than the one-hour 5-Day Club[®] program allowed. Day camps have met this need. Children come in the morning and stay until mid-afternoon. The added time accommodates extra activities in sports and crafts, as well as extended teaching time.

Camp Jireh in Central Maine

A permanent day camp facility is being developed at our Central Maine headquarters in Hermon. This summer, three weeks of ministry were conducted under the direction of Jeanette Linsey.

Traveling Day Camp Team in Central Maine

A traveling day camp team led by Jon and Ann Dowdy, held five weeks of day camps in Moscow, Harmony, Guilford, Hudson and Vinalhaven with 132 children attending. Eight of them trusted Christ as Savior. A team of four young people trained at *CYIA* assisted in the ministry.

Day Camps in Southern Maine

Two weeks of day camps were enjoyed by 73 children in Southern Maine. They were led by Larry & Debbie Porter.

Wilderness Day Camps in Northern Maine

Alex Bourgoin, with the help of local churches, held 5 day camps this summer. This ministry has brought churches together in a united effort to reach boys and girls with the Gospel. Three hundred twenty-six children attended the day camps with 31 salvation decisions. One week in particular, the attendance jumped from 50 to 78. The blessings were multiplied when 23 children stayed behind for counseling and 20 of them made a first-time decision for Christ!

The CEF International Conference

• *"The CEF International Conference really helped me to be more thankful for the CEF supplies that I am able to use every summer. I never stopped to think that there were national workers in foreign countries praying that God would supply them with materials to teach."*

• *"I was really challenged by the awareness of how vital prayer and a close relationship with God is for a successful ministry."*

These comments came from two of the 12 young people who attended our International Conference in May. In all, 37 folks from Maine were there to hear reports of all that God is doing around the world.

CEF workers reached over 10 million children in face-to-face ministry in 2010!

Family Camp 2011

Our second annual Family Camp was held September 9-11. Families love the relaxed atmosphere to spend time together canoeing, kayaking, etc. Yes, even swimming! Everyone just enjoys "being together," having lots of fellowship and fun. Phil and Ellen LaClaire, long time friends of CEF, held a concert on Friday night and provided music throughout the retreat. John Romano shared from Romans 1. Sixty-four adults, teens and children enjoyed the weekend.



Child Evangelism Fellowship® of Maine
Camp Good News®
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I would like to participate in what the Lord is doing in CEF and at Camp Good News by giving toward:

CEF General Fund	\$ _____
CGN General Fund	\$ _____
Where needed most	\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



2012 Winter Programs at Camp Good News

January 13-15	Winter Blitz (Ages 8-13)
January 20-22	Winter Blitz (Ages 8-13)
February 3-5	Winter Blitz (Ages 8-13)
February 10-12	Teen Retreat (Ages 14-17)

Save the Date! Family Camp September 7-9, 2012